BRIGHT PROSPECTS OF ACTIVITY

When Holidays Are Over and There is a Return to Real Life.

A DEOP IN HIDES AND PROVISIONS

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, SATURDAY, December 10, 1880.

The week past has been characterized by general quietness in all the jobbing lines. The close of the year is a time when retailers buy sparingly with an eye to stock-taking and January settlements. Markets hold up well in general to last week's prices, but the amount of goods handled shows a de-

There is an improved demand for good, fresh poultry, and prices have advanced within a few days. The same is true of fresh game. But old stock, with which the commission men have been overstocked for some weeks past, is hard to dispose of at any price. There is scarcely any fresh ventson of

The Steep Christmas Turkey.

There is little doubt that the Christmas turturkey will be steep in price. The nearby crop is scarcer than for years past, and it is now too late to receive any sufficient quantities from the West. The soft weather has made

from the West, The soft weather has made such shipments too risky.

The egg market has been slow all the past week. The soft weather which has been much complained of has enabled the hens to get in their work abead of the usual time. There is a more free movement of tropical fruits as the holidays approach, but ne sign of an advance in prices. In vegetable lines cabbage is the most active and firm. Prices have fully dendled in the past two weeks. Potatoes are also a shade firmer. There is a general and strong faith among produce dealers that prices will take an upward turn and the present quietness give place to activity as soon as holiday doings are fairly over.

The Gereal Struction.

last week. Netwithstanding these liberal re-ceipts markets are steady for all good stuff. New corn is weak at lower prices than last

NEW YORK, December 21.—Belcher, 150; Best and Helcher, 25; Caledonia B. H., 125; Crown Pount, 125; Consolidated California and Virginis A25; Consolidated August 140; Homestake, 200; Homestake, 2

Literary Culture in Buffalo.

Buffalo Courier.] The person who goes into the drygoods stores to buy books doesn't always find the

MARKETS BY WIRE.

A Fair Speculative Movement in Whent and Prices Slightly Stronger-Perk Rather More Active

CHICAGO—Wheat—Speculative trading to-day reached very fair proportions, and a strong feeling was developed in the market. Outside news was all more or less of a billish tener and assisted the buoyancy of the market. There was fair buying on long account, but the de-mand was supposed to come mainly from aborts, who were forced to cover, not liking the change which has come over the market the last few days. A prominent New York trader was reported as covering a large line through a Chicago house, and another firm was credited but Wenkers

was reported as covering a large line through a Chicago house, and another firm was credited with buying very freely on long account.

The market opened at about the closing figures of yesterday to \(\frac{1}{2} \) better, ruled firm and prices gradually advanced \(\frac{1}{2} \), then received \(\frac{1}{2} \), either received \(\frac{1}{2} \), again advanced to full outside figures, ruled firm, and closed about lo higher than yesterday. Operators were of the impression that there was considerable realizing at the advance by parties who had bought previous to the recent advance. Still the market held up well and the closing was apparently quite strong.

Cable advices were, on the whole, not quite so encouraging to holders as yesterday. Estimates on the visible supply vary from a probable decrease to a slight increase.

Corn—A fair trade was transacted within a narrow range and the feeling developed was a trifle firmer, the market sympathizing with wheat. Transactions were in the main local, principally in January, May and July. The market opened at about closing prices of yesterday, was easy at first, but soon became stronger, advancing \(\frac{1}{2} \) \(\frac{1}{2} \) eight in crease.

Outs—There was more disposition to sell the futures. The business transacted was only moderate, but a weaker feeling existed and prices declined \(\frac{1}{2} \).

Mess Pork—Rather more was doing and the

allow a small armor. There is general and strong faith among produce dealers that prices will take an upward turn and the present quietness give place to activity as soon as holiday doings are fairly over.

The Cercal Situation.

It will be seen by reference to the domestic market column that the receipts of grain and hay bulletined at the Grain Exchange for the week were much larger than for some weeks past. The total was 265 carloads against 174 last week. Netwithstanding these liberal recommendations were as follows: Flour steady carried to the control of the control

64 72364 75; May, 84 5564 8564 9564 9524.

Cash quotations were as follows: Flour steady and anchanged. No. 2 spring wheat, 78%c: No. 3 spring wheat, 636644c; No. 2 rots, 25%c: No. 2 corn. 33c; No. 2 corns, 25%c: No. 2 corn. 33c; No. 2 cors, 25%c: No. 2 rots, 25%c: No. 2 rots, 25%c: No. 2 rots, 25%c: No. 2 rots, 25%c: No. 2 partey, 58660c. No. 1 flaxseed, \$135%. Prime timothy seed, \$1 22. Mess pork, per bbl. \$8 62%69 25. Lard, per 100 lbs, \$8 587%. Short ribs sides (loose), \$4 6664 80. Dry salted shoulders (boxed), \$5 0065 65. Sugars steady. Receipts — Flour, 15,000 bushels; wheat, 54,000 bushels: corn. 252,000 bushels; oata, 160,000 bushels: corn. 252,000 bushels; oata, 160,000 bushels: corn. 22,000 bushels; oata, 112,000 bushels; rye, 6,000 bushels; barley, 18,000 bushels.

On the Produce Exchange to-day the butter market was unchanged. Eggs, 206/21c.

NEW YORK—Flour fair business and steady.

78c; on track, 73@76c.

Fine harness backs.

The floished rein leather, russet and stained, per dozen.

MEAT ON THE HOOP.

The Condition of Business at the East Liberts' Stock Yards.

Office of Phytsburg Disparch, 24 Cartle Receipte, 640 head; shipments, 340 bead; market nothing doing; all through consignments. One car of cattle shipped to New York to-day.

78c; on track, 73@76c.

St. Louis Flour quiet and steady. Wheat higher: the opening was somewhat easier, but a sharp demand on advices from outside markets caused a strong close at ½c above yesterday; no. 2 red, cash, 78%c bid; December, 78%c, closed at 78%c bid; Corn casy, No. 2 mixed, cash, 29%c; closed at 78%c bid; January, 87%c rebruary, 74%c closed at 27%c asked; March, 27%c. Cox at 10%c asked; March, 27%c. Cox asked; March, 27%c

His Tastes Run to School Exhibitions Rather Than Fenerals.

Milwaukee Wisconsin. 1 same learned cierks that he does in a genuine book store. "Have you 'Arnold's
Poems?" 'saked a thin-chested young man
in Meldrum's yesterday. "Arnold's
Poems?" answered the fair girl. "Let's
see, Mr. Snipley, have we 'Benedict Arnold's Poems?" "

A number of years ago a school exhibition
was on the programme at Mukwanago, and
on the night of the momentous event one of
the little girls who was to have taken part
in it lay dangerously sisk at home. The
doctor had just made his evening visit and see, Mr. Snipley, have we 'Benedict Arnold's Poems?' ''

PITTSBURG Beef Company, wholesale
agents for Swift's Chicago dressed beef, for
week ending December 21, 1889, soid 142 carrcasses, average weight, 514 pounds; average
price per pound, 5.37c.

Armour & Co., of this city, report the
following sales of dressed beef for the week
ending December 21: 166 curcames, average
weight, 576 pounds; average price, \$5 16%.

DOMESTIC MARKETS.

The Week's Wind-Up Shows Improvement in Produce Lines.

FRESH POULTRY AND GAME FIRM Heavy Grain and Hay Receipts, but Choice

Stuff in Demand. SUGAR DROPPING, COFFEE STRONG

OFFICE OF PITTSBURG DISPATCH, } SATURDAY, December 21, 1889. }

Country Produce-Jobbing Prices. Commission merchants report a slight imweek's windup certainly shows an improve-ment over its beginning. There is a good de-mand for fresh poultry at higher prices than last week, and from present appearances Christmas turkey will be higher than was paid at Thanksgiving. Western shippers have been sending in small quantities of late on account of soft weather. There is a better demand for fresh game, and prices are higher. But old ciated its value. Demand for apples and potatoes has improved, and higher prices are al-most sure to be realized when holiday doings BOSTO TO BE FEBRUARY MICHAELING WHICH, SUGSECT ONTO THE ATE AT A THE ATE AT A STATE OF T

18@20c.
CIDER—Sand refined, \$6 50@7 50; common, \$5 50@4 00; crab cider, \$5 00@8 50 \$P barrel; cider vinegar, 10@12c \$P gullon.
CHESTNUTS—\$5 50@6 50 \$P bushel; walnuts,

vinegar, 10@12c \(\mathbb{P} \) gallon.

CHESTNUTS-\$5 00@5 50 \(\mathbb{P} \) bushel; walnuts, 60@70c \(\mathbb{P} \) bushel.

CHESSE—Ohio, Il@Illigo; New York, Iligo; Limburger, \$4@ile; domestic Sweitzer, Iligo; Limburger, \$2.000 \(\mathbb{P} \) barrel; Eggs—26@27c \(\mathbb{P} \) dozen for strictly fresh.

FRUITS—Apples, fancy, \$2.000 \(\mathbb{P} \) barrel; California pears, \$3.5004 00 a box; cranberries, \$1.0000 \(\mathbb{P} \) barrel; Malaga grapes, large barrel, \$8.00.

GARKE—Squirrels, 75c@\$1 \(\mathbb{P} \) dozen; quall, \$1.75 \(\mathbb{P} \) dozen; pairrie chickens, \$4.005 00 \(\mathbb{P} \) dozen; phensants, \$5.0065 50 \(\mathbb{P} \) dozen; rabbits, \$0.005 \(\mathbb{P} \) dozen; phensants, \$5.0065 50 \(\mathbb{P} \) dozen; rabbits, \$0.005 \(\mathbb{P} \) pound.

FRATHERS—Extra live geese, \$5.000; No. \(\mathbb{A} \) do, \$6.0000 \(\mathbb{P} \) bis; mixed lots, \$5.0000 \(\mathbb{P} \) barrigersed, \$3.0001 \(\mathbb{P} \) bis; dressed \$5.0000 \(\mathbb{P} \) pair; live turkeys, 100010 \(\mathbb{P} \) bis dressed turkeys, 16018c \(\mathbb{P} \) bis dressed

Reck Yards.
**OFFICE OF PITTEBURG DEPATCE. |
**OFFICE OF PITTEBURG DEPATCE. |
SATURDAT, December 21, 188.

**CATTLE—Receipts, 40 head; shapmens, 30 head; market nothing doing; all through consequences. One car of cattle shipped to New Mills (1987) and the state of the s

Receipts, as bulletined at the Grain Ex-change, 39 cars. By Pittsburg, Ft. Wayne and Chicago, 2 cars of barley, 5 of hay, 1 of corn, 2 of feed, 4 of flour, 1 of cats, 1 of straw. By Pittsburg, Cincinnati and St. Louis, 3 cars of oats, 11 of corn, 3 of hay, 1 of wheat. By Baltimore and Ohio, 2 cars of hay, 2 of wheat. By Pittsburg and Western, 1 car of hay. There was a single sale on call, namely, a car of No. 1 timothy hay at \$11 00, b. and o. spot. Total I timothy hay at \$11 00 b, and c. spot. Total receipts of grain and hay for the week were 255 cars, against 174 last week and 192 the previous week. New shell corn is soft and slow. Choice grades in all cereal lines are firm at quotations. But all staff of inferior quality goes begging for customers. Good hay and old corn are very firm.

Prices below are for carload lots on track.

WHEAT—New No. 2 red, 85@86c; No. 3, 82@85c.

16 90 % ton; brown middlings. \$12 00@14 00; winter wheat bran, \$11 25@11 50; chop feed, \$15 00@16 00.

HAY—Baled timothy, No. 1, \$11 50@12 00; No. 2 do, \$8 00@16 00; loose from wagon, \$11 00 @15 00, according to quality: No. 2 prairie hay, \$7 00@8 00; packing do. \$7 25@7 50.

STRAW—Cats, \$6 75@7 00; wheat and rye straw, \$6 00@6 25.

Hams of all sizes, bacon and lard have been reduced, as our quotations will disclose.

Sugas-cured hams, large, 5%c; sugar-cured hams, medium, 10c; sugar-cured hams, small, 10%c; sugar-cured breakfast bacon, 8c; sugar-10%c; sugar-cured breakfast bacon, 8c; sugar-cured shoulders, 5%c; sugar-cured boneless shoulders, 7%c; sugar-cured California ham, 8c; sugar-cured dried beef sets, 18c; sugar-cured dried beef founds, 12c; bacon shoulders, 5%c; bacon clear sides, 7%c; bacon clear bellies, 7%c; dry salt shoulders, 5%c; dry salt shoulders, 7c. Mess pork, family, 512 00. Lard-Refined, in therees, 5%c; half-barrels, 6; 60% inha, 5%c; 20% pails, 5%c; 5% tin pails, 6%c; 10% tin pails, 6%c; dry salt shoulders, 10%c, 5% tin pails, 6%c; dry salt shoulders, 10%c, 5%c; dry salt shoulders, 10%c, 5

Dressed Ments. The following prices are furnished by Armour & Co. on dressed meats: Beef carcasses, 450 to 550 hs, 5c; 550 to 550 hs, 6c; 650 to 750 hs, %26%c. Sheep, 8c Ph. Lambs, 9c Ph. Hogs. 5%c. Fresh pork loins, 7c.

FINANCIAL FACTS. Features of the Stock Market Here and

Elsewhere Money in Good Demand and Plentiful-Saturday's Quotations-The Oil Market.

Trade keeps up, remarkably well considering the unseasonable weather. There has been very little diminution in volume and no contraction of prices. Even dealers in stocks and oil were hopeful. They see in the present bull a promise of better things to come. When the yearly settlements are made and the evening up process is completed, money will be easier. The holiday trade got a late start, but is in full swing at last. Sales the last two days of the

That all of the industries of the city, whether mercantile or manufacturing, are in a prosperous condition is shown in the official statement of the manager of the Clearing House that exchanges last week exceeded by more than \$2,000,000 those for the same time last year.

The feature of the stock market Saturday was a further advance in Luster Mining Company to 30 bid and 30% asked, with very little offered. It was said the company had secured new and improved machinery in San Francisco, and had taken other steps to develop the property. Those on the inside express confidence in the final outcome of the energetic operations of those in control of the mine.

Philadelphia Gas held its own on light offers, and at the close exhibited symptoms of a rally. The prospects of the company are said to have materially improved furing the month. Central Traction was a trifle stronger, and Electric was up to 47% bid and 48 asked. There was the usual Satarday bidding on bank stocks, to keep up quotations, but, while firm, they showed no decided change.

Brokers expect a revival after New Year's and show it in their looks and actions. The teeling pesterday was quite buoyant, and tradug brisk for a short day. The total sales

Freedom.

Septime was a series of the season of the season

| Normern Facilite pref. | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 1546 | 154

Closing Bond Quotations. Clealing Bond Quotations.

U. S. 4a, rog ... 112
U. S. 4b, reg ... 104
U. S. 4b, reg ... 104
U. S. 4b, reg ... 104
U. S. 4b, coup ... 127
U. S. 4b, reg ... 104
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U. S. 4b, reg ... 104
V. J. C. Int. Oers. 110
Pacific 6s of '96. ... 116
Louisianastamped 8 134
Missouri 6s. ... 102
Tenn. new set. 6s. ... 102
Tenn. new set. 6s. ... 102
Tenn. new set. 8s. ... 102
Tenn. new set. 105
Tenn. new set. 8s. ... 102
Tenn. new set. 8s. ... 102
Tenn. new set. 8s. ... 102

Philadelphia Stocks. Closing quotations of Philadelphia stocks, fur-lished by Whitney & Stephenson, brokers, No. 57 fourth avenue. Members New York Stock Ex-

Pennsylvania Hallroad. S25
Heading 19 7-18
Eudalo, Pittsburg & Western 78
Lenigh Valley 524
Lenigh Navigation 524
Northern Pacific 215
Northern Pacific 733 Fontures of the Market. Corrected daily by John M. Carriey & Co., Sixth street, members of the Pittsburg Pet leum Exchange.

Average runs. S4.696
Average shipments S4.696
Average charters. S4.696
Refined, New York, 7,50c.
Refined, Antwerp, 175c;
Refined, Antwerp, 175c;
Refined, Liverpool, 6 1-16d.
Refined, Bremen, 7,15m.
A. B. McGrew quotes: Puts, \$1 0836; calls, \$1 045621 0456.

When baby was sick, we gave her Castoria, When she was a Child, she cried for Castori When she became Miss, she clong to Casto When she had Children, she gave them Cast

New York - Pig iron quiet: American, \$15 50619 50. Copper unchanged. Lead steady; domestic, \$3 90. Tin quiet and steady; straits, \$21 10.

WHAT THEY DO IN WINTER TIME.

River Boatmen Always Detect the Work in a City's Iron Mills.

> HE skipper sat on a coil of rope in the bows of the Maria Anne well call her that as the Iron City or the Jim Wood. He didn't look a bit like Coleridge's ancient mariner, as he platreasured meerschanm and

watched the blue smoke wreatns curling upward. It was Sunday morning in Pittsburg—and on allthis side of the world, for that matter—and the bells clanged and chimed from the churches, making a mighty to-do all over the city. But the old skipper merely took in the bells as he took in the fresh air and the sunshine. He considered them as parts of the general entertainment gotten up for his benefit, and enjoyed them accordingly in a leisurely if not undemonstrative manner. It was December; but it was not December weather by any manner of means. There was some suggestion of frost along the river bank, of course; but then the warmth and the sunbeams cast a glamor over Jack Frost's mischief-making, till December on the Monongahela looked really like May.

MERCURY AND A MAN'S THIRST. But our skipper! Little cared he which of the four seasons danced the tight-rope of the year. In the summer he drank his beer, and liked it well; in the winter he imbibed his whisky, and liked it better. During the balance of the 12 months he alternated his drinks, according to the weather. When the excesses of heat or cold necessitate the stoppage of navigation, then he drinks a little more than usual. Consequently weather is regarded by him as a matter of drinks. Sitting on his ropes, with the fragrant



9% ... If Quill Had Only Found Such a Seat! odor of the red-gold juice of the rye lingering lovingly about his lips, he was accosted by the ubiquitous Mr. P. Quill.

The extreme corner of the skipper's left eye just lifted the least bit in the world and fixed itself on the bold intruder for the space of two seconds and a half. Then it dropped, and a full and true portrait of Mr. Quill was photographed on the mariner's mind.

"How d'ye do?" remarked the Captain; "won't you sit down?"

Mr. Quill looked up the deck and down the deck—nay, he even glanced casually to-ward the water, for not a chair or stool or even a rope coil of any description could he discern, with the single exception of the Captain's own throne.
"I-I don't see anything to sit on," he

finally observed. IMMATERIAL TO HIM. "Oh! it don't matter, sir," said the skip-per-"don't matter in the least. Sit down where you like. You needn't apologize. I don't mind."

don't mind."

"H'm! I guesa I'll stand," said Mr.
Quill. "By the way, I want to have a talk
with you, Captain—er—Captain—what did
you say your name was?"

"Didn't say my name was nothin'," said
the Captain. "What do you want to talk
about, sir?"

"Wall" bloomed.

"Well," blurted out the interviewer, "I want to know what you rivermen do when you are not working on the river—during the frost and ice season, for instance, or in the heat of summer?"

"Why," replied the skipper, slowly rolling out his words as though he were engaged in exercing them over with a selection of

in covering them over with a solution of tobacco smoke before sending them out into the captious world, "why, some of us does nothin', and some of the hands goes down to, the dockyards, on the Mississippi and hammers away there; and some more of them gets sent to the workhouse. If I was to tell you what we all do, I'd have a long, long story, young man. "Are you off w queried Mr. Quill. off work long at a time?"

"Well, sometimes we are; sometimes we're not," replied the skipper. "It all depends on the climate, I s'pose. In '87 we were off for 15 weeks. That was a presty big cantle. Some winters we only get off for week. Last summer was pretty bad; we were off nearly a month altogether, I guess.

* TOO MUCH WATER.

"Why, I thought we had lots of water last summer?" put in Mr. Quill.
Up went the corner of the old Captain's eye again, and he once more photographed the interviewer, "I recken we had lots of water, young man," the Captain said after a painful pause. "Indeed, anybody who knew anything about the matter would say we had a dern' sight too much water! We had so much, in fact, that navigation was almost impossible part of the time."
"How do you like getting off work?"
asked the interviewer, anxious to change

"Why, sir, I like it fairly," the other replied, "It's always pleasant to sit at a fire and let your wife cook for you and have your children to talk to. Oh, yes, I like it fairly." "Don't you feel a sort of longing to see

"Don't you feel a sort of longing to see the old boat again, when you're off?"
"Why, if I want to see her, all I've got to do is to come down to the wharf and take a look. Any time I want, I can get on board, just as Pam now, and smoke and enjoy myself. No, sir, on the whole, I guess, being at home is the best part of the trade. You see, you have your two homes—your river home and you can live in either just as you darn' please." THE DECK HANDS FEEL IT.

"But about the boodle side of the ques-"Oh! I take that as it comes," said the skipper, knocking the ashes out of his pipe, which had now been snoked out. "We captains are able to live quite comfortably, even with the 15 weeks" worth of salary knocked off. It is the hands who feel the pipels, but they are the same live in the same l pinch; but then they can nearly always get some work or other to keep them going. A few are bad boys, as I told you, and get

into jail; but the great majority manage to keep out. I was a hand once myself, and had a pretty rough time of it. I remember being off once for seven weeks. The first week, two others and myself had a little money, and we spent it, too, you bet! The second week we were out of cash, so we worked in a mill. But we got tired of that, and set up a wild camp of our own down near Chartlers. How camp of our own down near Chartiers. How we lived I don't know, but we managed to get along somehow. I'm afraid some of the neighboring chicken coops got visited, and I knowwe killed a pet terrier one day we were very hungry; and very nice he tasted after a short time over our fire. We would have been driven to mill work again, or to water rats, if the thaw hadn't come and navigation reopened. I'm happy to say. IDLE PECCADILLOS AND PECULATIONS

navigation reopened. I'm happy to say, though, that that was an unusual experi-A SKIPPER USED TO SKIPPING. "There was another time when we boarded on Water street, and skipped by the back windows at the end of the first week. We got down to McKee's Rocks and camped round there. Well, I stole something else that time—I stole my wife. Yes, sir; she and I time—I stole my wife. Yes, sir; she and I took a jaunt down to Cincinnati with a little money she had, and got spliced there. When I got back to Pittsburg I went to work and paid my late landlady the week's board that I owed her. I never did like mill work, I must say. River work's no soft snap; but it's heaven compared with mill labor. I was greaser in two or three mills here, at different times, during off-work times; and I nearly got cut up into bits once or twice. I'd rather swim to McKeesport and back than throw another strap over another wheel in one of those

mills!"

Here the old gentleman got up from his ropes, and looked around on all sides. "Say, young man," he said, "this is Sunday I know, and I don't keep no 'speak-easy' up in that cabin o' mine. But still, if you-wouldn't mind coming up—eh?"

Mr. Quill didn't mind going up in the least.

BRENAN.

IMPORTUNATE LITTLE SUNSHINE. A Very Pretty Story About a Little Girl's

Christmas Present. Little Sunshine is one of us up at our boarding house. We call her Sunshine because she looks as if some playful fairy had spilled an apronful of sunbeams on her head. Still we should have to call her Sunshine if her hair were black as mid-night, for she brightens every nook and

Yesterday her mamma—there's a diction xesterday ner mamma—there's a dictionary word we do not like, this "mamma" with its stilled accent at the end; the babies call it "mama," and surely they know best—yesterday Sunshine's mamma brought a package home with her. She carried it beneath her cloak, but Sunshine's eyes are

"Yes, mama, please; please let me see."
"Yes, mama, please; please let me see."
"Not now, my child."
"Little Sunshine stood in allence for a time, philosophizing. Then she said:
"Mama, will oo let me see it now it I
promise to be dest as much surprised when
oo div it to me Tris'mas?"

RINGING UP THE SHINES.

Bootblack Gets a Register to Prevent Employes From Stealing. Philadelphia Inquirer.!

As a Philadelphian stepped down from the chair and surveyed his well-polished boots with satisfaction, the bootblack rung up the price of the shine on a primitivelooking concern, an imitation of the cash registers that ornament the city's bars and Philadelphian-What in the world is

Philadelphian—What in the world is that?

Bootblack—Dat is de register, boss. Dat tells how many shines I does.

Questioning brought out the statement that this particular "shiner" was one of several who were working for an employer, and the crude register was an invention of the capitalist to prevent his employes from "knocking down" as the bootblack put it.

DIRECTORS.

A. Garrison, Edward Gregg, Wm. Rea.

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